

### **III. Remarks**

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 and 27-35 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 34, and 35 are independent.

Claims 2-6 and 12 were withdrawn from consideration as directed to a non-elected invention. Claims 13-26 were previously cancelled. Claims 1, 7-11, and 27-35 are under active consideration. All claim amendments submitted herein are made for reasons of clarity with respect to the specification and drawings, and not for reasons related to the statutory requirements for patentability.

The Abstract has been amended, as required; and the specification has been amended to correct minor informalities noted therein. No new matter has been added.

### **The Rejection**

Claims 1, 7-11, and 27-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by at least one of Zeidan (U.S. Patent No. 6,170,989) and Haeberlein (U.S. Patent No. 2,424,028), in view of Babcock (U.S. Patent No. 3,604,765), for the reasons noted at pages 4-5 of the Office Action. Applicants respectfully traverse all art rejections.

Each of independent Claims 1, 34, and 35 recites a novel combination of structure and/or function whereby the force redirector is configured to *redirect the force from a peripheral edge of the body upper surface to a central force area of the body*. In

contrast, both Haeberlein and Zeidan specifically teach away from this feature. As shown in Fig. 3, Haeberlein configures the bearing to keep the force on the peripheral edge thereof to draw lubricant into the resultant gap. See Col. 2, lines 48-54:

Because of the flexibility of the webs 6, any eccentric force effective on the segments 4 tends to tilt the segments in a slight degree. Lubricant drawn in between the segments and the collar takes the form of wedges tapering toward the trailing edges of the segments.

Thus, Haeberlein does not ***redirect the force from a peripheral edge of the body upper surface to a central force area of the body***, but teaches to have the force on the peripheral edge to produce the wedge-like gap for the lubricant.

Zeidan also teaches to keep the force on the peripheral edge of the bearing to permit ingress of lubricant, as shown in Fig. 3. See also Col. 2, lines 34-42:

The web 12 is constructed for limited flexibility about a linear axis parallel to the rotational axis 7 of the shaft 6. This flexibility allows the bearing 1 to function as a hydrodynamic bearing, namely, a bearing in which the bearing pad tilts away from the shaft at its leading edge, as shown in FIG. 3. This is to allow the formation of a wedge of lubricating fluid 32 at the bearing surface which converges from the leading edge to the trailing edge under the forces operating at the bearing surface.


Thus, Zeidan does not ***redirect the force from a peripheral edge of the body upper surface to a central force area of the body***, as claimed in the subject application.

Babcock fails to cure the above-noted deficiencies of Haeberlein and Zeidan.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Prompt issuance of a notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 625-3500. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard P. Bauer", written over a horizontal line.

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